

## **Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee**

**Thursday, May 29, 2003**

Chair Herro called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

**Present:** Supervisor Ken Herro (Chair), Carl Seitz, Alicia Silva, Paul Pronold, and Mareth Kipp. Silva left the meeting at 3:05 p.m. **Absent:** Jim Jeskewitz and Sandy Wolff.

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Senior Services Director Cathy Bellovary, Senior Services Analyst Barbara Woyak, Nutrition Services Supervisor Mary Smith, and Health & Human Services Director Peter Schuler.

### **Approve Minutes of April 10, 2003**

**MOTION:** Kipp Moved, second by Pronold to approve the minutes of April 10. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Schedule Next Meeting Dates**

June 12 – committee only.

### **Executive Committee Report**

Esler advised of the following issues discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting.

- State Rep. Lehman discussed newly proposed and soon to be introduced tax incremental financing legislation.
- Reviewed the Act 150 recommendations.

### **Review Correspondence**

The following pieces of correspondence were copied to the committee.

- Letter dated May 16 from County Executive Dan Finley to non-profit organizations asking if they would be interested in participating in Waukesha County's Non-Profit Summit being held on June 10 at the Expo Center starting at 8:00 a.m.
- News article dated May 20 entitled "County seeks W-2 program merger with Ozaukee, Waukesha counties."
- Letter dated May 19 from the Wisconsin Counties Association to U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin asking her to support the Collins amendment to the Jobs Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 and that it be included in the final tax package.

### **Meeting Approvals**

**MOTION:** Kipp moved, second by Silva to approve expenses for any committee members wanting to attend Waukesha County's Non-Profit Summit on June 10. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Review and Accept the Annual Report of the Department of Senior Services**

Bellovary, Woyak, and Smith were present to highlight their 2002 annual report as outlined including customer survey ratings on programs, revenue sources, and various data and information for the following program areas: Information and Assistance, Caregiver Support Services, Benefit Specialist Services, Community Services, Adult Day Care Center Services, Elder Abuse and Neglect, Elderly Nutrition Program Services, Specialized Transportation Services, and Volunteer Services.

The department uses grants, fees, donations, fund balance, and tax levy to provide services in 2002. Total 2002 funding was \$3,021,185 with \$1,330,418 being tax levy.

Woyak said they averaged over 196.2 incoming phone calls per day in 2002 – an increase of 6.9% from 2001 – with a total of about 4.5 staff handling or transferring the calls. Bellovary noted the average call lasted 28 to 30 minutes.

The total hours of volunteer services increased 6.7% from 36,945 hours in 2001 to 39,438 hours in 2002. The number of groups providing volunteer services increased 38.5% from 26 to 36 groups providing 568 volunteers. Group members included families, businesses, school and church groups, etc.

Caregiver Support Services are provided strictly with donations. Woyak noted that 214 individuals took advantage of these services which include a resource library, counseling/training, temporary respite, money management, personal care/bath, medication management, etc. Some of these services are for grandparents raising grandchildren.

In 2002, 228 older adults received Benefit Specialist services, a decrease of 18 (7.3%) from the 2001 level of 246. Woyak noted that while the numbers have decreased, the complexities of the cases have increased. 25.9% involved housing issues (taxes, discrimination, reverse mortgage counseling, etc.), followed by Surrogate Decision Making issues (Advance Medical Directives and Money Management) at 20.8%.

In 2002, 527 clients were served by Community Services (Homemaker Services; Personal Care; Chore, Household and Home Repair Services; Health Cost Sharing; and Respite Care) versus 484 in 2001, an increase of 43 clients or 8.9%. The greatest increase was in Personal Care/Bath (51 clients or 106.3%) and the greatest decrease was in Chore Services (1,026 units of service or 32.2%).

Subsidized Adult Day Services decreased in 2002 by 159 days of service (6.7%) from 2001. However, the number of participants increased by 3 (8.9%) from 36 in 2001 to 39 in 2002. Adult Day Services in 2002 were contracted through the following licensed facilities: The Caring Place, Lutheran Social Services of Menomonee Falls and of Waukesha, and Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital.

The number of reported elder abuse and neglect cases decreased by 7 (14.6%) from 2001. Reports of self-neglect have historically been the largest category of reported cases. This changed in 2002 with 15 reports of material/financial abuse exceeding the 11 reports of self-neglect. For 2002, of the 11 reported cases of self-neglect, 8 (72.7%) were substantiated, and of the 15 cases of material/financial abuse, 8 (53.3%) were substantiated.

In 2002, 61,231 congregate meals were served in comparison to 56,338 during 2001, an increase of 4,893 meals or 8.7%. The 2002 average donation was \$1.93 versus a 2001 average donation of \$1.94. In 2002, 85,017 home delivered meals were served compared to 94,071 meals served in 2001, a decrease of 9,054 meals or 9.6%. The average donation per meal was \$2.40 in 2002 compared to \$2.27 in 2001.

**MOTION:** Seitz moved, second by Pronold to accept the Department of Senior Services 2002 annual report. Motion carried 5-0.

Silva left the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

#### **General Update on the Congregate and the Home Delivered Meals Programs**

Bellovary and Smith were present to discuss this issue including the necessary criteria to be eligible for the Home Delivered Meals or Congregate Meals programs.

The Congregate Meals Program is currently celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with celebrations held at the various County senior dining centers. Smith advised of the new logo for the centers and it's hopeful this will attract more visitors. She said the more people who come to eat, the overall program cost goes down.

From January through April of 2003, 21,750 meals were serviced. During this same period in 2002, 20,730 meals were served. The current average donation is \$1.97 while the budgeted donation amount is \$1.93.

With regards to the Home Delivered Meals Program, they have served 22,635 meals so far this year. This compares to 21,646 meals served during this same time period in 2002. Assessments are performed on new clients to determine if they're nutritionally deficient. The average score prior to entering the program is 10.7 which is considered high risk. Once they're on the program one year, the average reassessment score is 8 which is considered medium risk.

Staff serve an average of 24 meals per day at each senior dining center. They also average 25 Home Delivered meals from each center per day. Smith said the dining centers are doing very well and for the most part are growing. For example, Menomonee Falls two years ago averaged about 8 meals per day and now they average 25. Muskego is another success story. However, Delafield's Senior Dining Center is only averaging 11.2 meals per day. Staff will determine the feasibility of moving it, perhaps to the fish hatchery since that's where their senior center is located, plus the current location can be difficult to find. Bellovary said they will also be looking into the possibility of adding a center in Pewaukee since the population in that area has grown steadily. Smith said they recently began providing nutrition analyses each of the dining centers so participants know the nutritional value of each meal served. Smith said they're always looking at where in the County are the private providers and where can staff get meals at a lower cost.

Smith advised of a new program which involves emergency food boxes for seniors that contain canned foods, juice, breads, dried milk, cereal, etc. The program is funded by the State through Second Harvest with monies from a vitamin settlement. The grant for Wisconsin totals \$1.5 million. Waukesha County is one of 9 counties to receive the food boxes. This program was developed by then Attorney General Jim Doyle whose goal was to reach seniors who don't have other means to obtain food. Waukesha County will receive 100 boxes per month. Smith said the department has targeted four of the largest subsidized apartment complexes in the county where we don't have meal sites. The people must agree to take the food for two years and they will arrive once per month. Bellovary said had the monies been handled differently, Waukesha County would have received \$76,000 per year to be used in ways that would be more beneficial for Waukesha County's seniors. There was no RFP and no input from counties as to how the monies would be best utilized. Bellovary said they could have used the money for specialized diets, fresh fruits and vegetables, food supplements, etc. Staff and supervisors questioned the popularity of some of the foods contained in the boxes, e.g., dried milk, and how much could go to waste.

### **Legislative Update**

Copies of Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn's report entitled "General Overview of Joint Finance Committee Action on Human Services Programs" were distributed in his absence. Schuler was present to discuss same. There's a reduction in the Income Maintenance allocation and Kinship Care monies while Community and Youth Aids have been essentially frozen. The juvenile corrections rates are scheduled to increase by 12%. The County Services Deficit Reduction Benefit has been fully funded which Schuler said was good news. Also, the Comprehensive Community Support Program has been reinstated. The Autism Services issue is included in the Joint Finance Committee's version of the budget although exact ramifications of any potential county involvement in providing these services are unknown at this point. A motion was made affecting TANF and a number of changes to W-2, including a rather substantial reduction in administrative allocations, which may impact the agency in Waukesha County currently contracting with the state to provide W-2. There was a major motion approved by the Joint Finance Committee on Medical Assistance. The ramifications are under review by County staff as are other actions taken these past few weeks.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Discuss Proposal for a Zero Based Budget in the AODA and Mental Health Areas (Herro)
- Discuss the W-2 Program Merger with Ozaukee County (Silva)
- Review Contractors of the Department of Senior Services (Herro)
- For the July 31 meeting: Update on Specialized Transportation (Herro)

**MOTION:** Seitz moved, second by Kipp to adjourn at 4:40 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Recorded by Mary Pedersen, Legislative Associate.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Silva  
Secretary